



Visitor Accessibility for Wayside Exhibits

The Media Development Group is committed to providing outdoor interpretive exhibits that are accessible to all potential users. Wayside exhibits will be planned, designed, fabricated, and installed in a manner consistent with the following goals. Standards and specifications used to ensure that these goals are met include "Director's Order #42", "The Principles of Universal Design," "NPS Wayside Exhibit Typographic Standards," and "NPS Wayside Exhibit Map Standards"

For Mobility-Impaired Visitors

Wayside exhibits will be installed at accessible locations wherever possible.

Wayside exhibit panels will be installed at heights and angles favorable for viewing by most visitors, including those in wheelchairs. For standard NPS low-profile exhibits the recommended height is 30" from the bottom of the exhibit panel to finished grade; for upright exhibits and bulletin boards the height is 24-28", depending on panel size.

Trailhead exhibits will include an accessibility advisory.

Wayside exhibits will have level, hard-surfaced exhibit pads.

Exhibit sites will offer clear, unrestricted views of park features referred to in the exhibits.

For Visually-Impaired Visitors

Exhibit typography will be legible and readable.

Panel colors will be selected to reduce eye strain and glare, and to provide excellent readability under field conditions. Because of its reflectivity, white will not be used as a background color.

Selected wayside exhibits will incorporate audio stations or tactile elements such as models, texture blocks, and relief maps.

For all major features interpreted by graphic wayside exhibits, the park will be encouraged to offer non-visual interpretation covering the same subject matter. Examples include cassette tape tours, radio messages, and ranger talks.

For Hearing-Impaired Visitors

Wayside exhibit panels will communicate visually, and will rely heavily on graphics to interpret park resources.

Essential information included in audio station messages will be duplicated in written form, either as part of the exhibit text, or in a publication.

For Learning-Impaired Visitors

Topics for wayside exhibits will be specific and of general interest. Unnecessary complexity will be avoided. Information will be presented in a clear hierarchical manner.

Easy-to-understand graphics will be used to convey ideas, rather than text alone.

Unfamiliar expressions, technical terms, and jargon will be avoided. Pronunciation aids and definitions will be provided where needed.

Text will be concise, free of long paragraphs, and wordy language.